

Rollins
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Power generators used in electrosurgical procedures deliver electrical

energy to an electrosurgical tool for operating on the tissue of a patient. An

5 active electrode of the tool, connected to the power generator, concentrates the delivery of the electrical energy to a relatively small region of tissue of the patient. The electrical energy typically includes energy in the radio frequency (RF) band. The concentration of electrical energy facilitates cutting or coagulation of the tissue of the patient. During typical operation
10 of a monopolar electrosurgical device, an alternating electrical current from the generator flows from an active electrode to a return electrode by passing through the tissue and bodily fluids of a patient.

During an electrosurgical operation, different tissue types may be encountered, such as, for example, fat, connective, glandular and vascular tissues. Connective, glandular and vascular tissues can have similar characteristics in the way they react to electrical energy, specifically, they have similar characteristics of electrical impedance. Fat however, has significantly different electrical response characteristics. In particular, fat presents a higher impedance to the flow of electrical current than do the